

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action mailed January 10, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7-24, and 26-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan (USP 6,172,428) taken with Hoyt, Jr. et al. (USP 4,465,920). The Examiner next rejected claims 6 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan taken with Hoyt, Jr. et al. as applied to claims 1-5, 7-24, and 26-31, and further in view of Hoffman et al. (USP 5,453,939).

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan in view of Hoyt, Jr. et al. While Applicant does not necessarily agree with the rejection, Applicant has nonetheless elected to amend claim 1 to further clarify what is being called for therein. As amended, claim 1 calls for, in part, a multifunction meter that includes a display unit having a plurality of individual displays thereon. Claim 1 further calls for each of the individual displays as being configured to display at least data indicative of operation of an engine and data indicative of power output of a power converter. Applicant respectfully believes that Jordan fails to teach, disclose, or suggest a display unit having individual displays thereon that are each configured to display both engine operation data and power output data.

Jordan discloses a Digital Control System (i.e., “DCS”) that acquires and displays measurements indicative of real-time system status information for generator sets. *Jordan*, Col. 8, Ins. 52-55. The DCS is incorporated into a control panel 300 located on the generator set and data is displayed by way of a Computer Interface Module (CIM) display screen 330 on the control panel. *Jordan*, Col. 12, Ins. 11-16. As shown in Fig. 4 of Jordan, display screen 330 is a singular display unit having a multitude of information thereon related to a plurality of parameters. That is, all information that is obtained by DCS regarding engine operation and power output of the generator set is displayed simultaneously on a singular display screen 330. *Jordan*, Cols. 13-15. Jordan, however, fails to teach or suggest what is called for in claim 1, which calls for a plurality of individual displays that are each configured to display at least the data indicative of engine operation and the data indicative of power output of the power converter. Rather, Jordan discloses a singular CIM display screen 330, not a plurality of individual displays as called for in claim 1. Therefore, Applicant believes that claim 1, and the claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct over Jordan.

The Examiner also rejected claim 12 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan in view of Hoyt, Jr. et al. While Applicant again does not necessarily agree with the rejection, Applicant has nonetheless elected to amend claim 12 to further clarify what is being called for therein. As amended, claim 12 calls for, in part, a welding-type apparatus including a multifunction meter imposed on a control panel that is configured to display engine condition data and power signal data. Claim 12 also calls for the multifunction meter to further include meter controls thereon configured to toggle the displaying of the engine condition data and the power signal data. Applicant believes that Jordan fails to teach, disclose, or suggest a multifunction meter that includes controls thereon configured to toggle between the displaying of engine condition data and power signal data.

As set forth above, Jordan discloses a generator set that includes a control panel 300 thereon having a display screen 330 that displays a multitude of information related to a plurality of parameters. *Jordan*, Col. 12, lns. 11-16. All information that is obtained by a digital control system (DCS) in the generator set regarding engine operation and power output of the generator set is displayed simultaneously on the display screen 330. *Jordan*, Cols. 13-15. The control panel 300 also includes pushbuttons 316-320 thereon that allow an operator to move a cursor display screen 330 to highlight a feature on the screen. *Jordan*, Col. 12, lns. 15-20. A “Select” pushbutton 318 allows an operator to select a item highlighted by the cursor on display screen 330, which for example could allow an operator to start/stop engine operation via engine control 442. However, pushbuttons 316-320 are not configured to toggle the displaying of engine condition data and power signal data as called for in claim 12. Conversely, Jordan discloses that any engine operation and power output information of the generator set is displayed simultaneously on the display screen 330 independently from any operator selection made via pushbuttons 316-320. *Jordan*, Col. 12, lns. 11-33. Use of pushbuttons 316-320 merely moves a cursor on display screen 330 allowing an operator to highlight/select a particular feature on the screen, it does not toggle the displaying of engine condition data and power signal data. *Id.* As such, Jordan fails to teach, disclose, or suggest that which is called for in claim 12. Therefore claim 12, and the claims dependent therefrom, are patentably distinct over the cited references.

The Examiner further rejected claim 26 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jordan in view of Hoyt, Jr. et al., stating that Jordan discloses “[a] display unit with plural displays as shown in figures 4 and 5; arrangements providing feedback from the engine and power converter at element 102 in figure 2; a mode button controlling the display at element 410 in figures 4 and 5....” *Office Action*, January 10, 2007, p. 2. Applicant believes that Jordan fails to teach, disclose, or suggest that which is called for in claim 26. Specifically, Applicant believes that Jordan does not teach or suggest a welding-type apparatus having a single set of meters to display volts and amps of the electrical power and means for on demand displaying of engine condition data on the single set of meters.

Similar to claim 12 above, claim 26 calls for means for on-demand displaying of engine condition data on the single set of meters. That is, the single set of meters of the current invention allow an operator to select which set of parameters are displayed on the meters and call-up in an on-demand fashion the display of engine condition data. See *Application*, ¶20; see also Fig. 2. This is not what is taught or suggested in Jordan. Rather, Jordan teaches that engine operation and power output of the generator set is displayed simultaneously on the display screen 330 independently from any operator selection made via pushbuttons 316-320. *Jordan*, Col. 12, lns. 11-33. Thus, engine operation data is not displayed “on-demand” but is displayed automatically, and concurrently with the volts and amps of the electrical power output from the generator, regardless of operator selection via pushbuttons 316-320. This is not what is called for in claim 26. Therefore, claim 26 and the claims dependent therefrom are patentably distinct over the combination of Jordan et al. and Hoyt Jr. et al.

In addition to the above arguments and amendments, Applicant has amended claim 7 to further clarify what is being called for therein. Applicant has also elected to cancel claims 19-25.

Therefore, in light of at least the foregoing, Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-18 and 26-31.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Amendments and Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2623. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by credit card authorization being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-2623. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2623. Please consider this a general authorization to charge any fee that is due in this case, if not otherwise timely paid, to Deposit Account No. 50-2623.